



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/771,453 Confirmation No. 2950  
Applicant : WATANABE, Y. et al.  
Filed : February 5, 2004  
Title : STORAGE SYSTEM, AND CONTROL METHOD, JOB SCHEDULING PROCESSING METHOD, AND FAILURE HANDLING METHOD THEREFOR, AND PROGRAM FOR EACH METHOD  
TC/AU : 2186  
Examiner : TBD  
Docket No. : NIT-409  
Customer No.: 24956

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**  
**UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop DD  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. This IDS should be considered:

(a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

(b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$180.00 (a

Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);

(c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is included in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box); then the Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) and request(s) consideration of this IDS, and provided herewith is a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the petition fee, or if not see section 5 below).

2. When 1(a)-(c) do not apply, then it is requested that this IDS be placed in the file.

3. Listing of the information submitted is on the attached Form PTO-1449, which forms a part of this IDS. A copy of the listed document is enclosed.

4. If a fee or additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or additional fee that may be required and credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

5. No explanation of relevancy is being provided for the documents listed in the attached PTO-1449, because they are either discussed in the present Specification and/or is in the English language.

6. If the PTO determines that part(s) of the required content is inadvertently omitted, then it is requested that the Applicant(s) be given additional time and specific identification of such omission(s) to enable full compliance.

Respectfully submitted,



Colin D. Barnitz  
Registration No. 35,061

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.  
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 684-1120  
Date: July 7, 2005



Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449  
(REV. 7-80)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
NIT-409

SERIAL NO.  
10/771,453

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT  
Y. WATANABE et al

FILING DATE  
February 5, 2004

GROUP  
2186

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If Appropriate)
AA	5,448,719	09/05/95	Schultz et al			
AB	6,658,434	12/02/03	Watanabe et al			
AC	6,886,054	04/26/05	Taninaka et al			
AD	2005/0005 034 A1	01/06/05	Johnson			
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						
AI						
AJ						
AK						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
AL	2001- 175423	06/29/01	JP (English Abstract)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AM						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AN						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AO						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AP						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)**

AR		
AS		
AT		
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.